



Washington Massage News

Affiliated with American Massage & Therapy Association

JULY ISSUE

John A. Murray, Editor

Port Townsend, Washington

STATE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Another year has rolled around and here we are at convention time still trying to build membership and continue to raise our standards as much as possible.

We hope to help one another by sharing out knowledge and techniques and improving our schools of Massage Therapy.

We are contacting Edison Technical School and are trying to work out a program whereby we can set up a curriculum for teaching Massage Therapy. The school will teach the anatomy, but we will have to furnish a teacher for the Massage Techniques and also agree as to standards for the school.

We have a committee now checking on this important phase of our profession.

We also are still working on legislation. We feel that every year we are making a little more headway. We are gaining more recognition for our profession both with the Medics and also the legislators.

We must constantly guard against adverse legislation or our organization will be squeezed out and our profession will die a slow death. So far, thanks to our legislative Committee, we have caught all adverse bills and amendments have been tacked on which have protected us and left us free to continue on in our work.

We are now working on a simplified bill which we hope will meet the approval of all concerned.

Dr. Stevenson gave us a wonderful informal talk which was very encouraging. He mentioned the progress our organization was making and said he felt sure we would succeed in acquiring a satisfactory Massage bill in time, which would protect us.

He stressed the fact that we must organize the various Massage groups and gain considerable membership.

We also are in the process of establishing a better relationship with some Insurance Co's whereby they will recognize our profession and we in turn would recommend them to our clients as a good company to do business with.

At our state convention Jean Williams was appointed as our delegate to the National Convention. It was decided to check available reservation for next year, during Century 21, before inviting the National Massage Therapy convention to Seattle for 1962.

If we could make arrangements either in Seattle or surrounding cities then we would invite the National to Seattle.

I was very disappointed in the small representation at the State convention.

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The same faithful few were there who have done the work and held the offices before, without pay, donating their time, knowledge and work to build a profession of which you can be proud.

I have accepted the position of state president for the coming year, I will have to admit rather reluctantly as the officers do not seem to get any help from the membership.

I am asking all members to attend meetings and take an active part this coming year as we are making an all out drive for membership and also for legislation. The Massage Therapy meetings are only held once a month and I am sure that all members could be there if they tried. I am counting on you to help me make this a better profession and organization.

I am making each member responsible for contacting personally anyone in their area who is in Massage Therapy work and ask them to join our organization. If they want more information give them the name and address of your city or state president.

Arthur D. Mann R.M.T.
Washington State President

The Washington State meeting held in Yakima, Washington, June 3rd and 4th, was attended, only by the faithful few. There being enough present, to conduct the state business of the A.M.T.A., and elect new officers for the coming year.

The 1961 - 62 officers are: Arthur Mann, President; Russel Soper, Vice president; Don Mumford, Secretary and Treasurer; Board of Directors are, Dorothy Mann, Jess and Ruth Williams, Regina Williams and Pete Eitreim. There were no volunteers for editor of Washington Massage News, it was agreed to make publication every other month, that it would not take so much of your present editors time.

The highlights of this meeting were the possibilities of Washington having the National Convention here in 1962 that the membership may attend convention and Century 21 Exposition at the same time.

A committee was appointed to seek desirable locations and other important facts.

A preparatory program was outlined by a new member James Wier, to meet our next legislative problem which will be with us again in about 18 months.

The need for increasing our membership was stressed emphatically. We have been too complacent in our efforts toward membership, taking the way of least resistance, which is doing nothing. After our close brush with House Bill No. 16, we should be well aware, that we need membership. There are a possible two hundred Massage Therapists in the State of Washington, and we need every one of them. That is a must.

We should be ashamed to view our total membership, if we compare it with a state like Montana, that is sparsely settled, compared to Washington, they have a membership that is three to one greater than Washington, Why? Because they have been on the ball, getting out and contacting possible members.

Everyone of our present membership must get a new member, and must attend your local and state meetings as often as possible, you can't sit back and "leave it to Steve" to do it, or some fine day we will find ourselves, out in left field, with out a glove, Ed

SUGGESTION - MASSAGE THERAPY LAY ORGANIZATION

Massage therapy patients will fight desperately to maintain their right to massage, if only they know the situation.

Legislators are politicians whose political activity depends upon votes. A legislator will vote in support of the man who can offer him 1,000 votes in preference to one who can offer only 100 votes. I believe in partially ignoring legislators until such time as the various auxiliaries (lay groups) have organized a sufficiently large number of voters to merit the attention of legislators. When this large group of voters is organized, legislators themselves will come to the voters, and patients of massage therapy will not have to go to the legislators. Voting power is what we need in the next 18 months. Anything demanded by a sufficiently large number of people will be granted by any legislator. The people must be informed. Let's forget our petty problems. First increase our membership and then get our people behind us for the power for our demands.

James M. Weir

THINKING OUT LOUD

It's much safer to drive if both the weather and driver are dry.

It is comforting to know that, when we reach bottom, there is no way to go but up.

Some girls fall head over heels in love with a fellow, while others go ahead and fall in love with heels. The distance between some people's ears is one block.

What's the use of seeing our selves as others see us? We wouldn't believe our eyes!

CLIENTELE SEGREGATION

During the state meeting, under the topic, of sickness or distress, the mention of a former member wanting to sell his equipment and practice, for the reason that there was a predominating women clientele and he was not getting it, stating it would be a fine location for a woman Massage Therapist.

Whenever I hear a statement like this, I feel there must be something wrong with the therapist. I feel that an ethical Massage Therapist, should have just as large a following of women as men, and have the same rights and respect as any ethical Doctor in any other branch of the healing arts.

I have always had a larger women clientele than men by two to one, women are more health conscious than men, so they contribute the major portion of income for any doctor or therapist.

It is your ability as a Massage Therapist, that is your measuring stick, and not whether you are male or female.

I will give as an example an experience I had in North Hollywood. I was employed by a Doctor who also employed a lady therapist. Our clientele was mixed men and women, she preferred a women clientele and the majority of her following were women. I had about 50 - 50 men and women. She was always telling me that her clientele would not have a man give them Massage Therapy. She was taken ill with the "flu" for a couple of weeks, during that time sixteen of her women came in for their Massage Therapy. One refused to have me, fifteen gave me a trial, one of them went back to her, when she returned to work, and fourteen stayed with me, I asked them later why they did, they all said "because you give a better massage treatment." She was a good therapist, but she liked to smoke, so she would cut corners enough on each one to have time for a smoke, her clientele were quick to notice the difference.

I do not like to see a sign, saying "Massage and Steam baths, separate departments for men and women." I know that's as it should be, for that kind of place and that kind of massage therapists, but it has a degrading effect on the good ethical massage therapist, who should have the freedom of choice, the same as any other of the professional healing arts.

Fraternally

John A. Murray R.M.T.

We have just received a communication from Stewart Piper R.M.T., of Everett Y.M.C.A., that the reason for his long silence is the result of surgery for Mrs. Piper, involving the ducts of the pancreas. Stewart reports that she is mending slowly, that he has not as yet undergone any form of treatment for himself, as reported in an earlier issue, due to an accident and re injury to cervical vertebrae.

This Washington Massage News, in behalf of its entire membership wishes Mrs. Piper a speedy and sure recovery, and that Stewart will have recovered and can again find time to be with us, both in presence and with his pen.

The July meeting of Seattle Chapter M.T.A., will be held at the home of local president Edmond L. Miller, M.T., 2820 Queen Anne - Ph AT-3-0077 on July 9th at 2:00 p.m. A pot Luck lunch will precede the meeting, with swimming in the Miller Pool to be enjoyed after the meeting or at an hour the weather of that day will permit.

Everyone make it a point to attend this meeting, It will be worth your efforts. Every local member should try to bring one non-member or prospective member.

Ed
